

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 4565

OECD PARIS FOR DEPUTY ASSIT. SECRETARY BOSWORTH

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: CIEC, ENGR, PINT, IR
SUBJ: IRANIAN VIEWS ON CIEC

REF: (A) STATE 090658, (B) TEHRAN 03371, (C) TEHRAN 04068

1. JUST BEFORE LEAVING FOR PARIS TO ATTEND THE CIEC MINISTERIAL MEETING, MINISTER OF STATE JAMSHID AMOUZEGAR, WHO WILL HEAD IRANIAN DELEGATION, PROVIDED ME WITH A RECAP OF IRANIAN POSITION ON ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED. AT THE OUTSET HE SAID GOI WAS PLEASED WITH MUCH MORE FORTHCOMING US ATTITUDE TOWARD CIEC THAN HAD BEEN EVIDENCED HERETOFORE. MORE SPECIFICALLY, HE SAID, GOI AGREED WITH US VIEW ON TRANSFER OF RESOURCES AND THAT NO DEBT RELIEF SHOULD BE GRANTED ALONG THE LINES ADVOCATED BY THE G-19. GOI ALSO AGREES WITH OUR POSITION ON COMMODITY AGREEMENTS AND A COMMON FUND TO SUPPORT SPECIFIC NEGOTIATED AGREEMENTS RATHER THAN A MORE GENERALIZED INDISCRIMINATE COMMODITY PRICE SUPPORT ARRANGEMENT. IRAN ALSO HOLDS TO THE VIEW THAT NO SPECIFIC TARGET SHOULD BE SET FOR AID TO LDC'S SUCH AS, FOR EXAMPLE, A PERCENTAGE OF NATIONAL GNP. ON THE OTHER HAND, IT HAS AN OPEN MIND ON THE SUBJECT AND IS WILLING TO DEBATE PROS AND CONS OF SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT.

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2. WITH RESPECT TO ENERGY, IRAN IS WILLING TO DISCUSS SUCH QUESTIONS AS TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, NEW ENERGY SOURCES, ETC., BUT IS ADAMANTLY OPPOSED TO A DISCUSSION OF OIL PRICES. IF THE WEST WANTS TO DISCUSS OIL PRICES, HE SAID, THEN THE WEST MUST BE WILLING TO DISCUSS PRICES OF MANUFACTURED GOODS, URANIUM, ETC. THE WEST CANNOT EXPECT TO ARGUE THAT PRICES OF WESTERN PRODUCTS ARE NOT SUBJECT TO DISCUSSION AND AT THE

SAME TIME ASSERT THAT OIL PRICES ARE.

3. AS FAR AS CONTINUATION OF CIEC IS CONCERNED IRAN HAS AN OPEN MIND BUT IS LEANING TOWARD THE VIEW THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL. ITS LIMITED MEMBERSHIP PROVIDES A FORUM FOR A MORE ORGANIZED SUBSTANTIVE EXCHANGE ON NORTH/SOUTH QUESTIONS THAN DOES UNCTAD OR SIMILAR FORA. ON THE OTHER HAND, IRAN HAS NO OBJECTION TO THE CONCEPT OF THE WORK OF THE CIEC BEING RETURNED TO VARIOUS SPECIALIZED ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE IMF, IBRD, ETC. IT WOULD SEE SOME DICHOTOMY, HOWEVER, IN THE ARGUMENT THAT THE WORK OF THE CIEC SHOULD BE RETURNED TO SPECIALIZED ORGANIZATIONS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ENERGY, BUT IT HAS NO OBJECTION TO THE CIEC ENERGY COMMITTEE BEING KEPT TOGETHER TO DEAL WITH INTERNATIONAL ENERGY QUESTIONS. IF THIS WAS A CIEC CONSENSUS, HOWEVER, HE THOUGHT THAT COMMITTEE'S MEMBERSHIP MAY HAVE TO BE CHANGED AND/OR ENLARGED.

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